



**MELDRUM, BOURTIE and DAVIOT
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
ANALYSIS OF FUTURE VISION RESULTS
MAY 2017**

Fig. 1.1. Map of Meldrum, Bourtie and Daviot Community Council Area



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1: BACKGROUND

Meldrum, Bourtie and Daviot Community Council Area covers three historic parishes NW of Aberdeen. Meldrum, more formally Oldmeldrum, is a small town, Bourtie a tiny hamlet and Daviot a small village.

Meldrum population 3,304 (2016 est.) is a modern town in appearance due to housing expansion to cater for a 60% rise in population between 2001 and 2011. Its population is relatively young, prosperous, and mainly employed outside the town: largely in Aberdeen. However, its historical centre around the Square with old buildings and narrow winding streets remains. Located on two ancient drove roads, Meldrum has a long history, dating back to before the Battle of Barra in 1308. In 1672 a Charter as a Burgh of Barony enabled it to hold a weekly market. Morris's Hotel, the oldest building in the town was established at this time. In 1684, the parish church was moved from Bethelnie into the town. Oldmeldrum became the main market centre of the medieval lordship of Garioch until it was supplanted by Inverurie in the 19th Century.

Daviot is a small village with a primary school, a brand-new Village Hall, several businesses, a church (1798), and a mixture of cottages and small individual modern housing. The House of Daviot, the Aberdeen Royal Mental Hospital in the 19th Century, has been re-developed into large modern apartments with additional new houses. In 2009, **Daviot Community Trust** took 22 acres of its grounds into community ownership. Its volunteers "have created an extensive path network, which received a Paths for All national award, and planted over 600 trees."

Bourtie church, rebuilt in 1806, lies in the centre of its parish. There is no village. Settlement is sparse and scattered throughout the parish.



Fig. 1.2. Bourtie Kirk

HISTORY

The Battle of Barra, 23rd May 1308, affects contemporary Meldrum, for in 2011, the battle site was included in the Inventory of Scotland's most important historic battlefields. Therefore it is a material consideration in the planning process and must be taken into account when deciding planning applications. Its boundary includes much of Meldrum's western suburbs.

Barra castle has a complex history but dates at least to the 15th Century. It was restored to its present appearance in 1910/11.

Barra hillfort. This "well-preserved monument", on the summit of the 193m Hill of Barra, "is an excellent example of a multi-vallate hillfort, probably Iron Age, with almost complete circuits of all three ramparts visible on the ground."

Loanhead of Daviot Recumbent Stone Circle is one of the best examples of this type of monument found only in north-east Scotland. However, this projection of Loanhead as the "archetypal" recumbent stone circle is partly the product of heavy restoration in 1934–5.

Kirkton of Bourtie Recumbent stone circle, just outside the hamlet of Kirkton of Bourtie, is badly damaged. The recumbent, though broken is the longest of all known recumbents.

Sheldon Stone Circle located nearby may not be a recumbent circle for there is no obvious recumbent stone and the uprights are not height graded.

2: OLDMELDROM, DAVIOT AND THE ABERDEENSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2017

A Local Development Plan (LDP) is map-based concisely linking Council Planning policies/proposals to locations. It is regularly updated. The current Aberdeenshire LDP was adopted in April 2017. Its successor, LDP 2021, is already well advanced.

LDP 2017 follows the *Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014*, identifying two broad policy areas:

- a) *Strategic Growth Areas*, absorbing 75% of anticipated growth, follow main transport routes out of Aberdeen: A90 to Peterhead; A96 to Huntly; and A90 to Laurencekirk;
- b) *Local growth and diversification areas*, where growth will be matched to local needs, are further divided into a more accessible or *pressured area* adjacent to the city and a *less accessible area* further out.

Oldmeldrum is located in the *pressured area* where local needs are viewed as requiring more restrictive planning policies. Allocations to meet these pressures are often limited by available infrastructure. Daviot, like many such settlements, is designated for small-scale organic growth to meet specific needs, e.g. sustaining the school roll, retaining facilities, or local employment.

In addition, the LDP permits development in the countryside if it is refurbishment or replacement of an existing or disused building; on a previously developed site now redundant; or a dwelling house associated with the retirement succession of a viable farm holding.

OLDMELDROM

Vision

Oldmeldrum is a key settlement located in mid-Formartine characterised by its former role as a market town and providing services to surrounding communities, including secondary and primary schools, shops, healthcare and community facilities. The Victorian market square and a location overlooking the surrounding agricultural land are central to the settlement's sense of place.

Key planning objectives will be to protect and enhance the settlement as a service centre, provide new job opportunities, and improve community facilities. With its services, central location in Formartine, and good transport links, meeting the demand for new homes is also a key planning objective.

These objectives will be met through the existing OP1, OP2, OP3 and Business allocations.

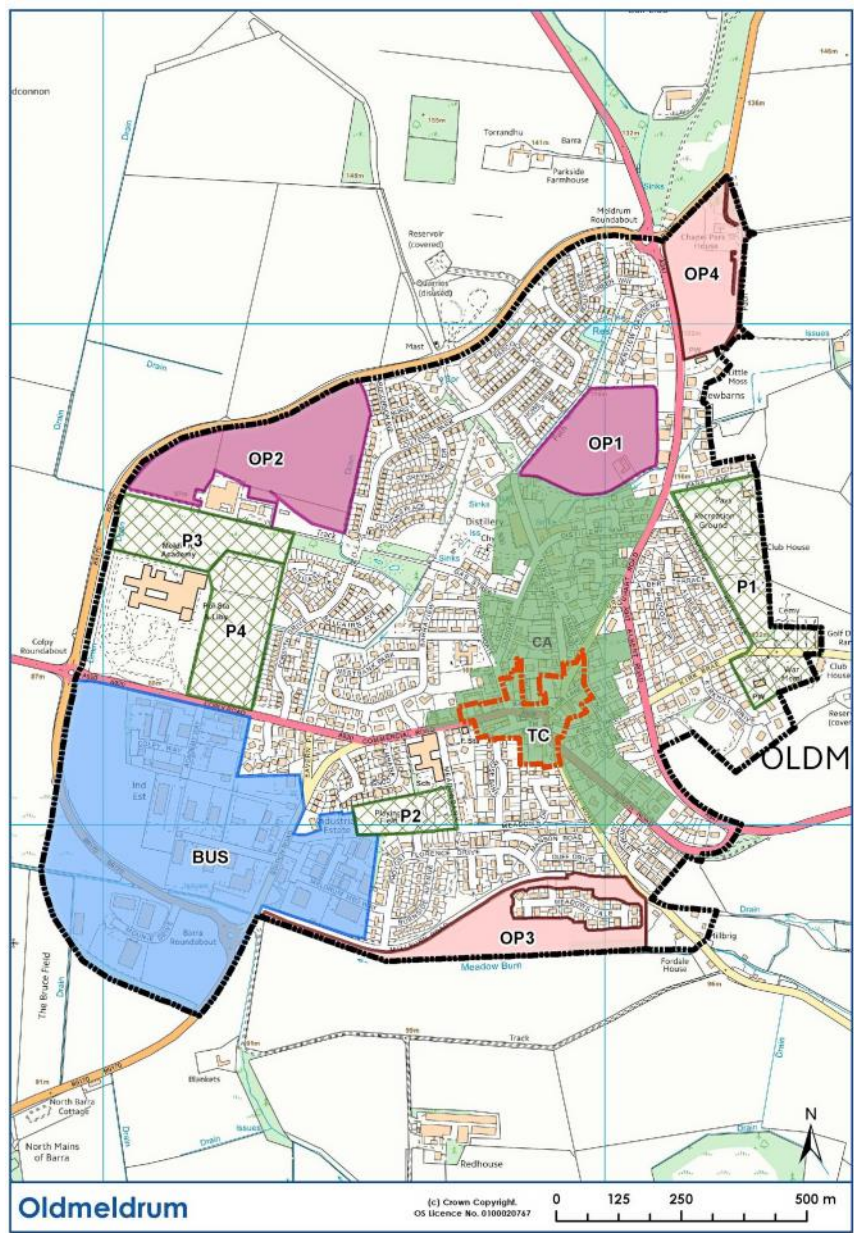
Natural and Historic Environment

The Inventory Battlefield of Barra covers much of the land to the south and west of the settlement and includes a large proportion of the land within the settlement boundary to the west of Oldmeldrum.

http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/data/docs/battlefields/barra_full.pdf

Settlement Features

Fig. 2.1. Oldmeldrum LDP 2017 Plan



Protected Land	
P1	To conserve the recreational area.
P2	To conserve the playing fields.
P3	For a potential long-term future expansion of Meldrum Academy
P4	To conserve the new sports pitch
Other Designations	
BUS	Safeguarded for employment uses.
TC	Oldmeldrum town centre.
CA	Oldmeldrum Conservation Area

Allocated Sites

OP1: Land north of Distillery Road

Allocation: 50 homes, including 12 affordable, and community facilities

This site will require a masterplan; two access points; Safe, convenient and attractive public access to the community facilities on site; Active travel linkages into and within the development and Links to the existing adopted core path to the west of the site; buildings' design should respect surrounding local architectural styles as the site borders the Oldmeldrum conservation area.

OP2: West of Coutens Park

Allocation: 50 homes, including 12 affordable, and 4.2ha of employment land

This site will require a masterplan; two access points; homes' design to be sympathetic to surrounding properties reflecting traditional Aberdeenshire architectural styles. Given the prominent location overlooking Oldmeldrum, care must be taken to reduce visual impact.

OP3: Land South of Millburn Road

Allocation: 40 homes (under construction)

Future development of this site should ensure connectivity with housing on Meadows Vale and respect the scale of surrounding buildings, particularly those in Meadows Vale. Landscaping should be used to minimise visual impact. Open space should create links to the surrounding countryside and the existing adopted core path east of the site.

OP4: Land at Chapelpark.

Allocation: 35 homes, including 8 affordable, and transport interchange

This site is a new allocation. In September 2016 the Council granted planning permission in principle for development of this site subject to the completion of a section 75 agreement. Development should minimise impact on two nearby listed buildings. Additional and/or improved pedestrian crossing facilities on the A947 may be required.

DAVIOT

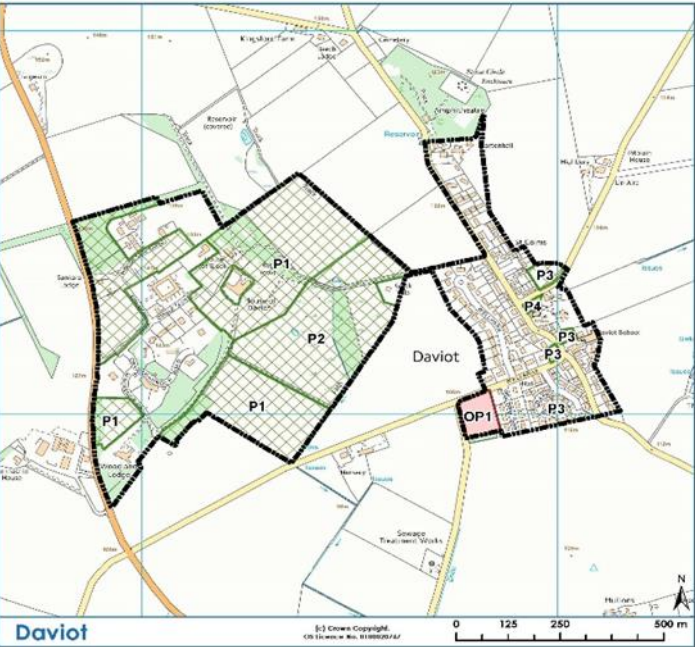
Vision

Daviot is an attractive village characterised by large areas of open community land set within rolling farmland on the edge of Daviot Estate. its historic assets, and the scenic views across the Formartine and Garioch countryside. The attractive setting of the village and its proximity to large service centres, means development pressure needs to be carefully managed to maintain the community land and setting of the village.

The planning objectives for Daviot are: protect the amenity of the village, meet local demand for homes, and support local services, including Daviot Primary School.

Natural and Historic Environment: The Loanhead stone circle and enclosed cremation cemetery is a scheduled monument just beyond the settlement’s northern boundary.

Fig. 2.2. Daviot LDP 2017 Plan



Protected Land	
P1	To conserve the landscape setting of Daviot Estate.
P2	To conserve the community land as a local amenity.
P3	To conserve the open space and recreational areas as amenities for the village.
P4	To conserve the car park as an off-street parking area

Settlement Features

Allocated Sites

OP1: Land to the south east Allocation (Now completed): 8 homes, including 2 affordable
The site is a logical location for development, close to the village centre, a Primary School and several businesses, helping support these services. Closely defined boundaries will prevent overdevelopment which will be well screened by mature trees along its southern boundary. Site access should be from Wellbrae, to allow the strongest linkage to the village centre. Active travel links within the site are encouraged linking to both the village and the surrounding countryside. A footpath linking to the village and the Wellbrae core path will be required. Specific care is needed regarding visual impact of the development from the west. Landscaping should retain the remaining trees and woodland to screen the development from the south. Housing should be sympathetic to the character and setting of the site and to nearby housing.

3a: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: MELDRUM FUTURE VISION.

Meldrum, Bourtie and Daviot Community Council established a sub-group, *Meldrum Future Vision*, to develop a Community Action Plan with support from the Formartine Partnership, Aberdeenshire Community Planning, and Community Learning and Development, to identify issues which needed addressing, to inform future development policies, particularly the 2021 LDP for Aberdeenshire. An online survey, supplemented by paper copies, was used to collect the data, and the *Place Standard* method was used to analyse it.

PLACE STANDARD is a new Scottish Government tool. It assesses places by their assets, strengths, and weaknesses to support the delivery of high-quality places in Scotland and to maximise the potential of the physical and social environment for health, wellbeing and a high quality of life.

The **STANDARD TOOL** consists of:

14 THEMES relating to the physical and social elements of a place;

Each theme has a Key Question to be scored between 1 and 7;

(1 means a lot of room for improvement and 7 means very little)

Each Key Question has subsidiary “prompt” questions to help assess its score; and

Each Key Question has an “open comments box” to give reasons for the scoring.

The scoring allows instant comparison between settlements using a **Compass Diagram**.

The open comments boxes identify issues and inform interpretation of the Compass Diagram.

Fig. 3.1. PLACE STANDARD questions (excluded questions in red).

STANDARD THEME	KEY QUESTION
Moving around	Can I easily walk and cycle around using good-quality routes?
Public Transport	Does public transport meet my needs?
Traffic & Parking	Do traffic/parking arrangements allow people to move around safely and meet community needs?
Streets and spaces	Do buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around?
Natural space	Can I regularly experience good-quality natural space?
Play and recreation	Can I access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation?
Facilities & amenities	Do facilities and amenities meet my needs?
Work & local economy	Is there an active local economy & opportunity to access good-quality work?
Housing&community	Do the homes in my area support the needs of the community?
Social contact	Is there a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people?
Identity & belonging	Does this place have a positive identity, and do I feel I belong?
Feeling safe	Do I feel safe here?
Care & maintenance	Are buildings and spaces well cared for?
Influence/ sense of control	Do I feel I can take part in decisions and help change things for the better?

MELDRUM *FUTURE VISION* SURVEY

The group modified the place standard Survey to focus on Themes it felt were more relevant by

- Removing five themes: Streets & spaces, Natural space, Play & recreation, Identity & belonging, Care & maintenance;
- and adding two themes thought to be of particular interest:
 - Q2. Happiness: "In general, how happy are you living in your town or village?"
 - Q11. Health: "Are you satisfied with the local health and social care services and your ability to have your needs met when required?"
- Scoring the 55 prompt questions, each with its open comments box;
- The open comments boxes generated 2675 comments to inform the interpretation.

This complicates comparisons with other settlements but improves ability to identify and address relevant local issues. Survey was open from 1st June to 30th September 2016: 525 people responded.

Fig. 3.2. MELDRUM *FUTURE VISION* RESULTS: THEMES ranked by satisfaction

Q	Theme	Meldrum, Bourtie and Daviot <i>Future Vision</i> Survey : How Good is Our Place?	Wtd Avge
10	Feeling Safe	Is the area safe for all?	5.40
8	Housing and Community	Does the housing in your area support community needs and contribute to a positive environment?	4.65
11	Health	Are you satisfied with local Health and Social Care services? Do they meet your needs?	4.58
12	Influence/ Sense of control	Are you able to participate in decisions and help change things for the better?	4.47
4	Public Transport	How well does public transport meet your needs?	4.30
MEDIAN			4.28
6	Facilities and Amenities	Are facilities and amenities of good quality and well-maintained?	4.26
9	Social Interaction	Is there a range of opportunities and spaces to meet people and interact?	4.25
3	Moving Around	Does the design of Oldmeldrum/Davioot encourage walking and cycling?	4.22
2	Happiness	In general, how happy are you living in your town or village?	4.01
7	Work and Local Economy	Is there an active local economy with opportunities to access good quality work and training?	3.88
5	Traffic and Parking	Do traffic/parking arrangements allow people to move around safely and meet community needs?	3.44

The weighted-average scores are plotted on the diagram. Those closer to the centre are most in need of improvement. Those towards the edge are strengths. The diagram shows, at a glance, in which themes a place performs well and where there is room for improvement. Meldrum's results, as a whole, are close to the centre, with few near the edge. There are no very high and no very low values. Only Traffic and Parking is below the weighted average halfway point 3.5. Feeling Safe is best. Happiness is third lowest.

Fig. 3.3. MELDRUM FUTURE VISION SURVEY: COMPASS DIAGRAM

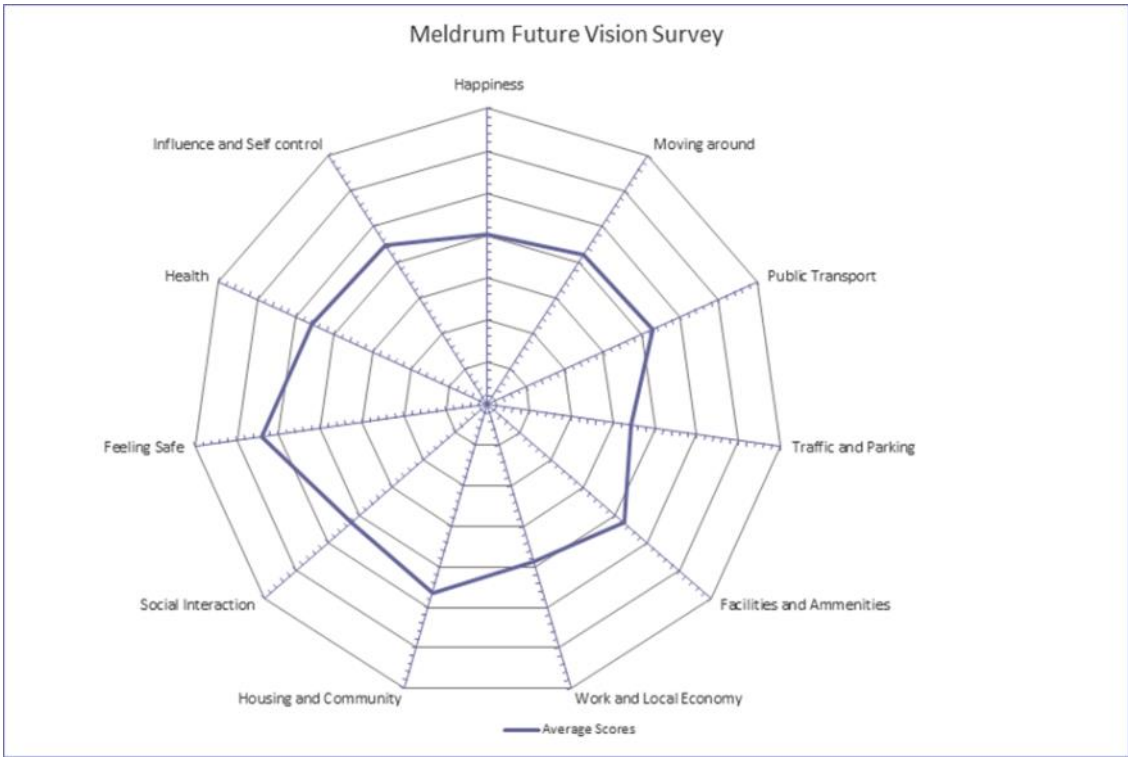


Fig. 3.4. MELDRUM FUTURE VISION SURVEY: Analysis of the 2675 comments.

THEME	No.	MAIN COMMENTS
Happiness	383	67 good and friendly 198 want more facilities, of which 163 were more shops
Traffic and Parking	291	The Square is the most topical with 56 citing <i>right of way</i> and 40 <i>lack of road markings</i> ; On the new <i>Parking arrangements</i> , 56 were positive and 38 felt there were still issues; 54 comments on available car spaces. 68 comments on the main car park; Pedestrians don't feel safe outside the pharmacy; A Park and Ride for those that travel to Aberdeen for work.
Moving around	280	85 more walking/cycling paths out-with the town 66 would like to see improved connecting with other communities Nearly 60 would like to see a path to Inverurie
Public Transport	252	Good service to Aberdeen. Improve Inverurie service, connections to trains and airport, Sunday timetable. Improve waiting facilities, information.
Facilities and amenities	177	Almost all wanted more facilities or amenities: particularly shops

Fig. 3.4. MELDRUM FUTURE VISION SURVEY: Analysis of the 2675 comments. (cont)

Health	168	101 highlighted the <i>wait for health appointments</i>
		However, there were positive comments about <i>how good the staff are</i>
		<i>More support</i> for the elderly, mums (midwives)
		Pharmacy not possible for elderly after last appointment
Work and local economy	159	Available childcare (50) had most comments out of 159. Creation of more jobs would be welcome. Industrial rents were an issue
Feeling Safe	152	Anti-social behaviour was the most topical with 46 comments. Some had only heard about it and others felt it had improved lately.
		<i>Other local issues included:</i> Youths in cars / vandalism, empty derelict buildings,
		However, a third of respondents stated they felt safe
Housing & Community	149	A large majority of comments highlighted the need for affordable housing – flats, 1- & 2- bedroom houses, bungalows for rent/sale
		22 comments on need for smaller homes for retirees wanting to downsize
		18 respondents suggested the need for more Social Housing
Social Interaction	138	Would like to see a <i>community space or centre/facility</i> for people to use
		A greater choice of activities, for <i>older people, middle age, new mums</i> and <i>young people</i>
		More community events but also improve communication of what activities are available
		There were 39 respondents were either aware and some happy with what is already available
Influence & Sense of Control	109	Improvements in listening to the community
		Better communication –social media or a bulletin board
		There is an awareness of local groups/activities, some complementary but few cited enough time to get involved. Although some said they would consider it in the future.
If you had one wish for your area?	234	Supermarket (56) but 34 stated not to want a supermarket that takes business out of the town
		More shops (33) Swimming Pool (21) Get more involved in town things/ integrate new people
		Infrastructure improvements (18)
		More facilities & amenities eg sports centre (16)
		More walking/cycling routes (14) and green spaces
		Whilst some respondents would like it to stay the same (18)

DISCUSSION

Most comments relate to Happiness (383), dissatisfaction with existing facilities explains its low rating with 198 comments relating to shop provision. The survey coincided with campaigning to overturn a planning application refusal for a supermarket.

Traffic and Parking (291) had the second most comments, again of dissatisfaction relating to recent remodelling of the Square and perceived traffic, parking and safety problems.

Moving Around (280) would like to see more off-road footpaths and cycleways.

Public Transport service to Aberdeen was good but the service to Inverurie needed improvement

MELDRUM *FUTURE VISION*: ENDORSEMENT of PRIORITIES:

Public Meeting on Saturday 27th May 2017

Meldrum *Future Vision* Committee analysed the survey results and identified issues for presentation at a Public Meeting on Saturday 27th May 2017 with more than 60 attending.

Each person was asked to place one coloured sticky dot beside each priority: green for support; yellow for neutrality and red for opposition. The scores are shown in the table below.

The meeting largely endorsed identified issues to inform the Meldrum Community Action Plan

What is your single important issue?	Blue
Maintain existing community spirit - that's why I like living in Oldmeldrum	38
More walking/cycling routes	26
Greater choice of shops	18
Better Parking	15
More facilities & amenities i.e. sport & leisure; community centre	14
Infrastructure improvements	12

Fig 3.5. MELDRUM FUTURE VISION: PRIORITIES MEETING 27th MAY 2017:
RESULTS RANK ORDER WITHIN THEME

THEME	PRIORITY	Supt	Neu t	Op p
Moving Around	Walk/Cycle Path connecting to Inverurie	57	3	0
Moving Around	Cycle paths/ways around town	52	5	1
Moving Around	Walking/Cycle Paths connecting with other communities	51	3	0
Traffic & Parking	Improve traffic flow through the Square	53	12	1
Traffic & Parking	Increase/improve pedestrian crossings in the town	48	9	1
Traffic & Parking	Reduce parking congestion in the town centre	44	11	1
Public Transport	Transport connection	48	2	0
Public Transport	Improve waiting facilities	28	12	0
Public Transport	Inverurie to Oldmeldrum	25	6	0
Feeling Safe	I feel safe	46	8	1
Feeling Safe	Improve neglected, empty or derelict buildings	44	4	0
Feeling Safe	Reduce anti-social behaviour	38	5	0
Feeling Safe	Reduce vandalism	34	9	1
Influence & Sense of Control	Community website; information sources to promote community services; local activities and opportunities	46	0	0
Influence & Sense of Control	Encourage wider participation and inclusive decision making locally	43	3	0
Housing/Community	More affordable housing – flats, 1 & 2 bedroom houses, bungalows for rent/sale	45	5	1
Housing/Community	More smaller homes for retirees to downsize	45	6	1
Housing/Community	Low cost housing for people on low incomes; 1 st homes	38	6	1
Work/Local Economy	More businesses including start ups	42	1	1
Work/Local Economy	Affordable industrial rents	30	5	6
Work/Local Economy	Available and affordable child care	20	24	0
Health and Wellbeing	Happy with local health care and facilities	41	8	5
Health and Wellbeing	Access locally to health and fitness activities that help you look after/ improve your own health and wellbeing.	40	7	10
Health and Wellbeing	Support for the elderly and new mums	16	21	1
Health and Wellbeing	Increase availability of health appointments	13	12	38
Social Interaction	Use of a community space or centre/facility	36	2	0
Social Interaction	A greater choice of activities for all ages: elderly, middle age, new mums and young people & promote activities	29	5	3
Social Interaction	Happy with existing range of activities	11	11	14
Facilities & Amenities	Greater Choice of Shops	30	4	1
Facilities & Amenities	More Businesses	22	0	0
Facilities & Amenities	Better Parking	25	8	0
Facilities & Amenities	Retail Services	15	4	0
Facilities & Amenities	I am happy with the town now	9	8	2

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3b: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: DAVIOT FUTURE VISION

DAVIOT FUTURE VISION PLACE STANDARD SURVEY – *How Good is Our Place?*

Daviot members of the Future Vision group carried out a separate survey of Daviot Village to test whether the issues would differ from Oldmeldrum. They used the same 11 Themes as the Meldrum Survey, but the Key Questions focussed specifically on Daviot. A paper copy of the survey was delivered to, and collected from, a total of 182 households throughout the village.

Open comment boxes, linked to two questions, allowed the underlying issues to be identified:

Q2: *In general, how happy are you living in Daviot?* the only rated question with an open-comments box

Q13: *If you had one wish for Daviot what would it be?* a purely open-comments question.

DAVIOT FUTURE VISION SURVEY: DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

Seventy-five forms were returned and analysed, approximately 41% of households. Compared with Meldrum the Themes scored a higher average, 4.86, and a wider range, between 6.44 (*I feel safe*) and 2.96 (*Public transport*), the only Theme below the halfway point. The Compass Diagram is more variegated and less squashed into the centre.

The big difference was Happiness: this was ranked second not registering the dissatisfaction in the Meldrum survey relating to lack of shops and issues with the Square.

This is reinforced by the Open Comments on Q2, illustrating satisfaction with small village living, village facilities, fresh air, open countryside, rural walks and good accessibility: apart from public transport. The main concern was the threat of development as even a relatively small increase in houses would overwhelm the school and compromise safety on the narrow, mainly single-track, roads



Daviot Community Trust Walks Entrance

Fig. D3.1. DAVIOT *FUTURE VISION*: PLACE STANDARD THEMES AND KEY QUESTIONS: Rank Order

Q	Theme	Daviot Place Standard Survey: Key Questions	Wtd Avge
10	Feeling Safe	Do I feel safe?	6.44
2	Happiness	In general, how happy are you living in Daviot?	6.03
8	Housing and Community	Does the housing support the needs of the community and contribute to a positive environment?	5.32
11	Health	Do you feel that you have access to the type of activities locally to help you look after and improve your health and wellbeing?	4.97
5	Traffic and Parking	Do traffic & parking arrangements allow people to move around safely & meet the community's needs?	4.95
6	Facilities/Amenities	Do facilities and amenities meet my needs?	4.92
9	Social Interaction	Is there a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people?	4.87
MEDIAN			4.86
3	Moving Around	Can I easily walk and cycle around using good quality routes?	4.77
12	Influence & Sense of control	Do I feel able to participate in decisions and help change things for the better?	4.31
7	Work and Local Economy	Is there an active local economy and opportunity to access good quality work?	3.92
4	Public Transport	Does public transport meet my needs?	2.96

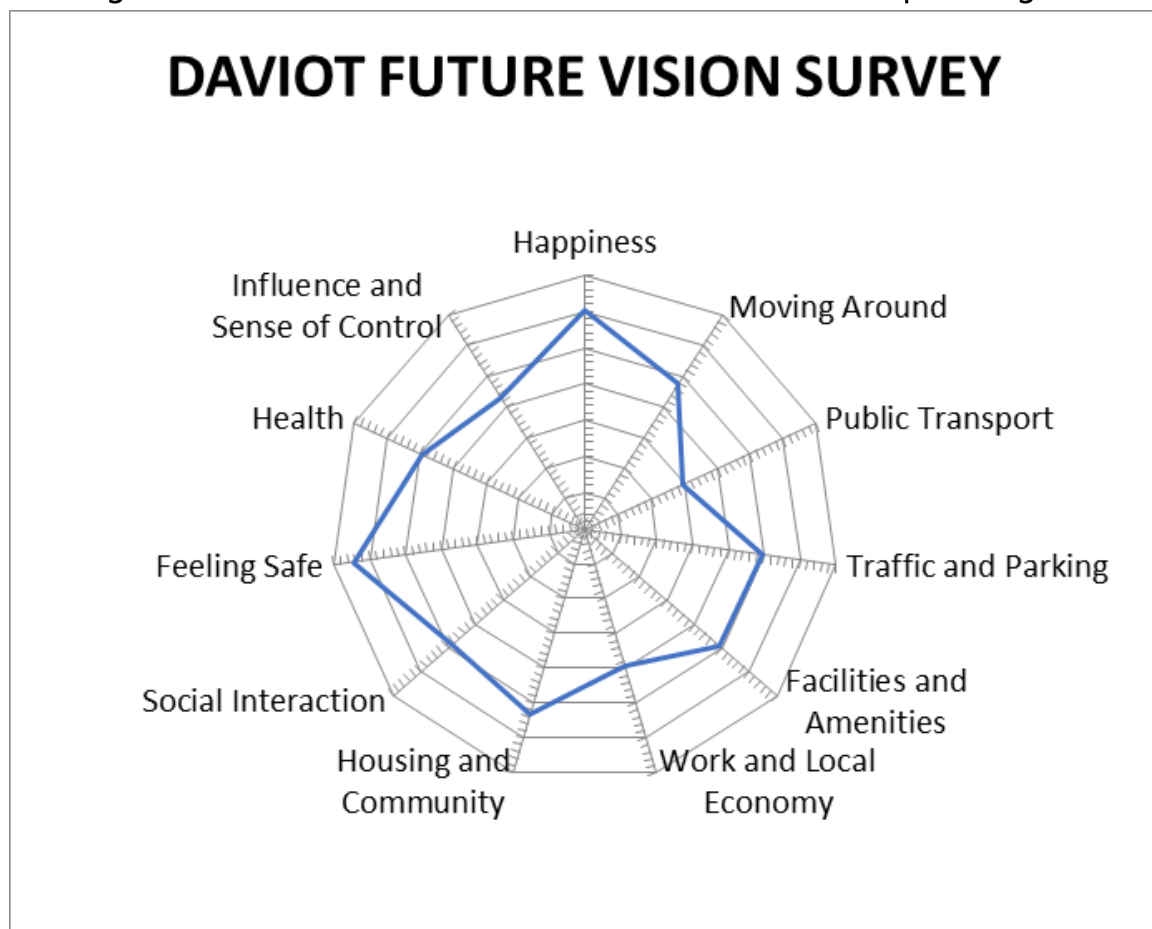
Fig. D3.2. DAVIOT *FUTURE VISION* PLACE STANDARD: Compass Diagram


Fig. D3.3. DAVIOT *FUTURE VISION*: Open Comments: Most cited issues: Q2. and Q13.

Q2. *Happiness and satisfaction with living in Daviot* and Q13. *If you had One wish:*

<p>Q2. HAPPINESS and SATISFACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Safe, quiet and peaceful environment. In general, people are friendly and helpful.</i> <i>Love the quietness of countryside living but a short run into town.</i> <i>Nice, very friendly place to stay. Nice new village hall.</i> <i>Nice and peaceful with nice neighbours. The Estate has a friendly community in general.</i> <i>A quiet, friendly place where I feel very safe. Also, a wonderful place to bring up my children....</i> <i>Not in town. Access to walks. Quiet.</i>
<p>Q13. ONE WISH</p> <p>HOUSING, DEVELOPMENT (19 Votes): Linked to development size, house type, roads issues and village atmosphere</p> <p>and TRAFFIC (14 Votes): Linked to speeding, widening roads, for and against traffic calming measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Currently there has been no excessive housing development such as has destroyed other local communities (Rothienorman, Oldmeldrum etc.)</i> <i>Was very happy but won't be if there are any more houses as it will move away from village life. More houses = more traffic = less safe for children</i> <i>I enjoy living in a small village surrounded by countryside. I didn't give a 7 as I feel the village is changing rapidly with too much growth. It is harder now to walk about without avoiding traffic</i> <i>Stay the size it is i.e. don't build more unnecessary houses : houses have sat empty for months</i> <i>Keep it small...no big developments</i>
<p>PATHS AND CYCLEWAYS (12 votes): Paths to/within Daviot Estate; to Stone Circle and Cemetery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Daviot Trust have made living in Daviot so much better for me and my family to enjoy walking, running and cycling round it</i> <i>Good walks, off road round Estate paths</i> <i>Cycling connectivity in the village and to other communities. (look at the Borders)</i> <i>Path work in the Estate is excellent and appreciated.</i>
<p>PUBLIC TRANSPORT (9 Votes) Inverurie satisfactory but poor frequency and lack of other destinations such as Oldmeldrum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Public transport needs to be much better. If we were unable to drive, we would feel isolated here and our responses to this questionnaire would be much lower</i> <i>Public transport could be greatly improved especially at the weekend</i> <i>Better public transport; Better bus service;..... Public transport is poor - access to facilities in Inverurie/Oldmeldrum only available by driving</i> <i>..... Good bus service to Inverurie; Better public transport to Oldmeldrum as well as Inverurie.....</i> <i>Buses that are easily accessible for elderly people</i>
<p>PARK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Nice, quiet place to live. Park and Stone Circle good for younger children</i> <i>Just moved to Daviot - really enjoy the lovely walks. Would be good if there were more things for toddlers at the park and picnic benches</i>

DAVIOT FUTURE VISION: PRIORITIES MEETING 7th October 2017

The Committee analysed the results of the survey and the Open Comments to identify issues to be taken forward for endorsement at a Priorities meeting. The participants were asked to indicate which issues they supported, considered to be neutral or opposed. The results are presented in rank order in Fig. D3.4.

Fig. D3.4. DAVIOT FUTURE VISION: PRIORITIES MEETING- Rank Order of votes
Main priorities

Score	Theme	Issues	Supt	Neut	Opp
4.77	Moving Around in Daviot	Core paths to former estate	28	0	0
4.77	Moving Around in Daviot	Improve grass maintenance	23	1	0
4.77	Moving Around in Daviot	Pavement to Stone circle and cemetery	21	0	0
4.95	Traffic & Parking	Concerned about local road capacity to cope with future traffic from more housing	20	1	0
4.95	Traffic & Parking	Concerned about local road capacity to cope with current traffic levels	20	0	0
4.77	Moving Around	To Inverurie	19	3	0
4.92	Facilities & Amenities	More equipment	19	2	0
4.95	Traffic & Parking	speeding/dangerous driving on B9001	19	0	0
4.77	Moving Around	To Oldmeldrum	18	2	0
4.87	Social interaction	More activities in Hall	16	2	0
4.92	Facilities & Amenities	Need for football pitches/multi sports centre	14	2	1
5.32	Housing & Community	Support limited housing development	10	3	1

Contested Priorities

Score	Theme	Daviot Future Vision	Supt	Neut	Opp
4.95	Traffic & Parking	Support for further traffic calming measures	11	0	11
4.95	Traffic & Parking	Concern about parking issues near the school	8	9	0
2.96	Public Transport	Would you support a change in service availability morn & eve	7	6	0
4.92	Facilities & Amenities	More childcare before and after school	5	6	0
2.96	Public Transport	Would you support a service frequency change?	5	6	0

Rejected Priorities

Score	Theme	Daviot Future Vision	Supt	Neut	Opp
5.32	Housing & Community	Support Future housing developments	2	8	9
5.32	Housing & Community	Strongly oppose Future housing developments	2	2	7
2.96	Public Transport	Would you like to see a bus service to other places	0	7	1

DAVIOT FUTURE VISION PRIORITIES;

The issues were largely endorsed and so can inform the Community Action Plan for Daviot

THE FORMARTINE COMMUNITY PLAN (FCP) 2016-2019

The *Formartine Community Plan 2016-2019* brings together input from a range of public services, Community Planning Partners, Elected Members and regular interaction with local communities. It identified four key priorities for Formartine :

Fig. 4.1. FORMARTINE COMMUNITY PLAN 2016-19: Table of Priorities

Priority 1: STRONGER EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES
1.1. Communities are empowered and supported to develop and deliver a vision for their local area
1.2. Communities are well informed, involved in decision-making and take a responsibility in delivery of local actions and priorities.
1.3. Stronger local resilient communities through the contribution of volunteers.
Priority 2: SAFER COMMUNITIES
2.1. Fewer Formartine residents injured or killed as a result of preventable accidents, particularly in relation to road collisions, accidental dwelling fires and deliberate and non-domestic fires.
2.2. Formartine communities experience fewer instances of antisocial behaviour and residents experience a better quality of life, particularly in relation to vandalism and perceptions of safety.
2.3. Greater awareness of individuals, families and the vulnerable within our communities to be safe from harm (cyber safe) while online.
Priority 3: TACKLING INEQUALITIES
3.1. Reduction in inequalities in health outcomes between identified communities in Aberdeenshire.
3.2. Equal access to early intervention and prevention creating healthier and active lifestyle choices, especially for older people and the vulnerable.
3.3. Enable individuals and families to make small changes that have long lasting positive impacts for themselves, their families and their community.
3.4. Children living in families who are vulnerable are identified and offered early support.
Priority 4: TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY
4.1. Demand responsive transport and supported bus network serving Formartine.
4.2. Improved transport to address healthcare and wellbeing, challenges of inequality, social exclusion, rural isolation and vulnerability.
4.3. Greater opportunity to encourage sustainable travel in the area for 30% of people covering shorter distances, to either walk or cycle all or part of their journeys.

5: PRIORITIES AND LINKS TO THE FORMARTINE COMMUNITY PLAN 2016-19: DISCUSSION

5a: MELDRUM COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Moving Around: FCP Priorities: 1.1;1.2;1.3;2.1;2.2;3.1;3.2;3.3;4.3.

Strong support for cycleways and footpaths. Moving Around had the three highest ranked issues at the Endorsement meeting and the third highest number of open comments. There is a strong Paths group in Oldmeldrum.

Walk/Cycle Path to Inverurie (57 votes)

Meldrum Paths group have a well-advanced project, to connect Oldmeldrum to Inverurie.

Cycle/pathways around Oldmeldrum (52 votes)

Review needed of footpaths in Oldmeldrum, notably routes connecting new estates to the town centre.

Walk/Cycle Paths to other communities (51 votes)

An obvious contender is a Meldrum Meg Way branch linking Daviot to Inverurie and Oldmeldrum

Traffic and Parking

Traffic and Parking had the second highest number of Open Comments and 4th and 5th ranked issues in the Endorsement meeting. They relate mainly to dissatisfaction with the recent remodelling of the Square and its perceived traffic, parking and safety problems.

Increase/improve town's pedestrian crossings (48 votes) FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 3.1; 3.3.

There are no road signs or markings in the Square. Pedestrians are apprehensive about crossing the road, but the Square's small scale makes it difficult to meet criteria for more pedestrian crossings.

Reduce Town centre parking congestion (44 votes) FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 3.1; 3.3; 4.1.

The problem here is the small number of spaces in the centre and a tendency for commuters to occupy them all day. The proposed Transport exchange hub may alleviate this.

Public Transport

Improve Transport connection (48 Votes) FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 4.1; 4.2.

Bus services are good to Aberdeen but much poorer to Ellon and Inverurie with its railway station.

5b: DAVIOT COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Moving around: footpaths and cycleways : FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 4.3.

The highest ranked issues cover appreciation of walks in and around Daviot and support for expansion to and within the Daviot Estate , improved continuous path to the Stone circle and cemetery. With support for safe, off-road access to Inverurie and Oldmeldrum, these form the highest priority.

A link to the proposed Meldrum Meg Way would connect Daviot to both.

Opposition to Development FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; 3.2; 3.3.

The second ranked issue is local road capacity, village atmosphere and safety. There is strong opposition to housing development but some muted support for very limited small housing development.

Playpark improvement FCP priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.2; 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 3.4; 4.2.

There is also strong support for improving the playpark and a new group focussing on its improvement.

B9001 Driving FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 3.1; 3.3.

Here are strong concerns about speeding/dangerous driving on the B9001 access to the village.

Traffic Calming FCP Priorities: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 3.3.

Traffic calming is contested and should not become an action until specific proposals can be clarified.

Section 6. MELDRUM AND DAVIOT COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS

Fig. 6.1. MELDRUM *FUTURE VISION*: COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

THEME and ISSUE	ACTION	LEAD	PARTNERS
MOVING AROUND			
Walk/Cycle Path to Inverurie	Construct new off-road pathway: Meldrum Meg Way	Meldrum Paths Group	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council, Formartine Partnership, Aberdeenshire Planning service
Cycle /pathways around Oldmeldrum	Off-road paths which connect new parts of town with services	Meldrum Paths Group	As above
Walk/Cycle Paths to other communities	Construct new off-road pathway from Daviot	Meldrum Paths Group	As above
TRAFFIC & PARKING			
Increase/improve pedestrian crossings	Revisit crossing issues in Square /Identify locations of other problem sites	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC	Aberdeenshire Roads
Reduce town centre parking congestion	Construct transport Interchange. Revisit parking charges and times	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC	Aberdeenshire Council
PUBLIC TRANSPORT			
Improve bus connections	Particularly east - west to Ellon and Inverurie	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC & Stage-coach	Aberdeenshire Transportation

Fig. D6.1. DAVIOT *FUTURE VISION*: COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

THEME and ISSUE	ACTION	LEAD	PARTNERS
MOVING AROUND			
Paths within Daviot	Improve/expand paths in & to Daviot Estate	Daviot Community Trust	Formartine Partnership, Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC
	Extend pavement to Stone Circle and cemetery	Aberdeenshire Council	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC, Planning service, Formartine Partnership
Paths out-with Daviot	Develop off-road footpath/ cycleway to Inverurie and Oldmeldrum	Meldrum Paths Group	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council, Planning service
HOUSING & COMMUNITY			
Opposition to development	Monitor LDP 2021 and Planning lists	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC	Planning service
FACILITIES & AMENITIES	Improve Play equipment	DAIG	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC, Landscape Services, Formartine Partnership
Playpark	Improve Football Field	DAIG	As above
ROADS & TRAFFIC			
B9001: Reduce dangerous driving:	Engineering, Surface improvement, Signage, Enforcement	Roads Service & Police Scotland	Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot CC

ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING ADDRESSED AS OF OCTOBER 2019

The following are provided by the Community Council to indicate the current status and progress from points raised during the Future Vision Surveys completed May 2017 –

MELDRUM & BOURTIE

Update: Meldrum future vision community action plan (Fig. 6.1.)

- ❖ A Park and Ride for commuters to Aberdeen is being delivered by Aberdeenshire Council*
- ❖ More walking and cycle routes are in process of being provided by Meldrum Paths Group*
- ❖ The Denwood walk has been vastly improved and now offers child friendly areas
- ❖ Bus services to Aberdeen have been cut but a new service to Inverurie and Daviot began in August 2019*
- ❖ Bus waiting facilities and information panels have recently been renewed / updated in 2018*

MELDRUM FUTURE VISION PRIORITIES (Fig.3.6.)

Update: Local Development Plan 2017

- ❖ The **LDP 2021 Main Issues Report** is supporting increases in the **LDP 2017 allocations**:

OP1 (FR119), Land North of Distillery Road, Oldmeldrum 99 homes. The capacity of this site has been increased from 50 to 99 homes to avoid underdevelopment.

OP2 (FR068) Coutens, Oldmeldrum 85 homes. The capacity of this site has been increased from 50 to 85 homes to avoid underdevelopment.

OP4 (FR069) Land at Chapel Park, Oldmeldrum 68 homes. The capacity of this site has been increased from 49 homes to 68 homes to avoid underdevelopment.

FR061 Site 1, Newbarns, Oldmeldrum 146 homes. The capacity of this site has been increased from 88 to 146 to avoid underdevelopment:

Increasing housing density may encourage the development of smaller, more affordable houses.

OP3: Land South of Millburn Road - 25 homes have been constructed by Aberdeenshire Council – these are now occupied as of July 2019

Update: MELDRUM FUTURE VISION PRIORITIES (Fig. 3.6)

Anti-social behavior and vandalism reports have improved

More facilities and amenities have been provided in the pleasure park area in 2017 - 2019

Health & Fitness activities have greatly improved with many different activities on offer

Doctors consulting hours altered to allow collection of medication prior to Pharmacy closing

More community activities are planned but improvement of communication of what activities are available has still to be addressed by Meldrum, Bourtie & Daviot Community Council.

Update: MELDRUM FUTURE VISION OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Prior notification for demolition of derelict property has been deemed unnecessary so can proceed
War memorial lighting was installed in May 2019

Town Hall lighting was repaired and upgraded in August 2019

Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council will investigate potential space for a Community Facility
LDP 2021 and planning lists are monitored as information is provided by Aberdeenshire Council

DAVIOT

Update: Daviot Future Vision community action plan (Fig. D6.1.)

Daviot Community Trust has completed a paths network connecting the village and the new housing on Daviot Estate however connecting in Daviot requires improvement*

Paths to the Cemetery were requested in June 2019 but rejected by Aberdeenshire Council due to lack of funding but however will be pursued by Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council*

Fundraising for equipment for the pleasure park play equipment and football area is currently being undertaken by Daviot Amenities Improvement Group*

* (Daviot Future Vision priorities Fig.3.5.)

Update: Daviot Future Vision other developments

LDP 2021 and planning lists are monitored as information is provided by Aberdeenshire Council

A village shop and Café opened July 2019

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